

June 20, 2005

We are looking forward to having you to our annual Independence Day Firecracker tournament on July 2-4, 2005. For 2005, the tournament will feature 5 age groups and 133 of the top teams from Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, New York, West Virginia, Delaware, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Wisconsin, and Tennessee!

- **Enclosed** you will find:
  - Pool Play Schedule
  - Championship brackets
  - Tournament Rules
  - Park Directions
- **Format:** Pool play will begin Saturday the 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 9:30 am. All teams will play 3 games on Saturday. Teams will finish playing pool play games on Sunday the 3<sup>rd</sup> by playing 3 more pool games. Pool play games will end on Sunday afternoon. Championship play will begin first thing Monday morning.
- **Rain Phone:** In case of inclement weather, the rain phone number will be 717.300.1300. Please appoint only **one person per team** to access this number. The recording will be kept current and include any changes or cancellations if they happen. An email will also be sent to the contact person should anything happen and updates will be made on the website in the case of heavy rain or other conditions. Generally a decision is made around 5:00-5:30 am for the entire day and a recording is usually up by 6 am.
- **Team Cancellation:** If at any time you find out your team will not be able to participate, please let us know ASAP to be considered for future tournaments. If a team cancels, all teams scheduled to play them will be notified if a replacement team cannot be found.
- **Directions** for all the parks can be found on our website, <http://pa-softball.com/directions.html> The Chambersburg area is experiencing some road construction, so please leave plenty of time. Please use the provided directions and MapQuest, Yahoo, etc directions only as a backup plan.
- **Tournament Hosts:** Several teams will be helping host this particular tournament. These teams have done a lot of work to prepare for this tournament to ensure you have a good time. Please clean up after yourselves at the various parks. Also, thanks to the hosts we will be able to offer concessions at all parks.
- **Pool play brackets** are enclosed and are also posted online. Any changes to the brackets will be emailed to the contact person and also posted on the website. If it affects your Saturday morning start time you will be notified. To see if you have the most up to date brackets, check the "Last Modified" mark on the bottom left of the page to make sure it matches your copy. If there are changes to a bracket, updated brackets will be made available at check in.
- **Championship bracket seeds** will be available by phone after the last pool play game in your age has been completed. DO NOT CALL US, you will be called by your field director with your seed. Be sure to leave (1) active cell phone number that has reception. This number will be called and if not available a message will be left.
- **Hersheypark:** Quite a few teams that have entered tournament will be attending Hersheypark, a nearby theme park that has over 60 rides and does catered picnics. The park has given us a discount rate of \$27.50/person for adults (regular \$39.95) on tickets when pre-purchased. More info is available on our website or by calling 717.300.1300.

- **Rita's Italian Ice** will be at selected parks selling Italian ice as a fundraiser for Relay for Life. Look for them under the Rita's tents.
- **Tournament T-shirts** orders are being taken (form on website). Unless there are extras, shirts will not be available at the tournament. Shirt orders **MUST** be received by Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup> at the latest. Orders must be accompanied by payment. See the website for an order form.
- **A Team Picture** will be taken of most teams at the tournament. Samples for ordering will be available on Sunday and Monday under the green canopy. Coaches of those teams will receive a free 8x10 team photo.
- **All Star Helmets** will also be attending the tournament for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. They specialize in custom batting helmets, but they can also airbrush other items and they carry novelty goods. Call Chris at 706-463-2276 for more info and the sites they will be at.
- **Tournament results** will be updated for those who can't be physically present. Daily results will be placed at the tournament homepage: <http://pa-softball.com/2005/schedule.html>
- **Fireworks:** Unfortunately the way the tournament lands on the calendar this year, most teams won't be able to enjoy the numerous area fireworks displays. If your team does happen to stick around for Tuesday at Hersheypark, you may want to consider the Carlisle, Shippensburg, or Chambersburg fireworks displays all on July 4<sup>th</sup>. You may also consider the Harrisburg area American Music fest from July 2-4, with fireworks to follow each night's performances. Set along the Susquehanna River, they usually have a nice display and good food. Website: <http://www.harrisburgpa.gov/parksRec/specialEvents/amf/index.html>
- **Tournament Awards:**  
All age groups – PONY Championship banner, MVP medals every game, Tournament MVP  
**10&U** – 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> "Gold" team trophy, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> "Gold" individual trophies,  
**12&U** – 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup> "Silver" team trophy, 1<sup>st</sup> "Silver" individuals  
**14&U**–1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> "Silver" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup> "Silver" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup> 'Bronze' team trophy  
**16&U** – 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> "Silver" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup> "Silver" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup> 'Bronze' team trophy  
**18&U** – 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> "Gold" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> "Silver" team trophies, 1<sup>st</sup> "Silver" individuals, 1<sup>st</sup> 'Bronze' team trophy
- **PONY Nationals Berths:**  
10U (1), 12U (3), 14U (4), 16U (4), 18U (4)  
**Note: All berths will be awarded to the gold bracket teams only.**
- Please take a look at the enclosed brackets, making sure your team is scheduled for all 6 pool play games.

If you have any questions, feel free to email me: [greg.barrick@pa-softball.com](mailto:greg.barrick@pa-softball.com) or call (717) 300.1300. I'm looking forward to a great tournament and look forward to seeing you on the 2<sup>nd</sup>!

Yours in Softball,  
Greg Barrick